THE GENESEE FARMER.

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THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 1839.

PLOUGHS.

Great improvements have certainly been made in ploughs within the last twenty-five years. The manufacturer who should offer the farmer such a plough now, as was considered a first rate article only a quarter of a century since, would be deemed as giving an intentional insult. There is, indeed, a vast difference between the clumsy wooden plough of our fathers, and the neat light cast iron plough of the present time; yet we imagine that indispensable implement has not reached perfection, and there is abundant space for the exercise of mechanical and scientific skill in its construction, before that point is reached. We think, and we believe farmers in general will agree with us, that most of the kinds of ploughs made in this country are too short. In the early settlement of any country, no other than short ploughs are admissible, as the elevations and hollows made by upturned and decayed trees, would not permit the use of such ploughs as are found to do the best work on older and level countries. A large proportion of our cleared lands have now been levelled, and of course there can be no reason why the short, erect handled ploughs, so necessary a few years since, should be retained. The man who is cleaving wood, does not prefer a blunt wedge; the man who is forcing a weight up an elevation, does not choose the steepest part, but the plane where the ascent is most gradual and of course the easiest; and for the same reasons, a plough that is so long as to enter the ground gradually, and give but a gentle rise to the mould-board, will work much easier than one, the fore part of which is nearly perpendicular, as all short ploughs must more or less be, and which, in separating the earth, push rather than lift.

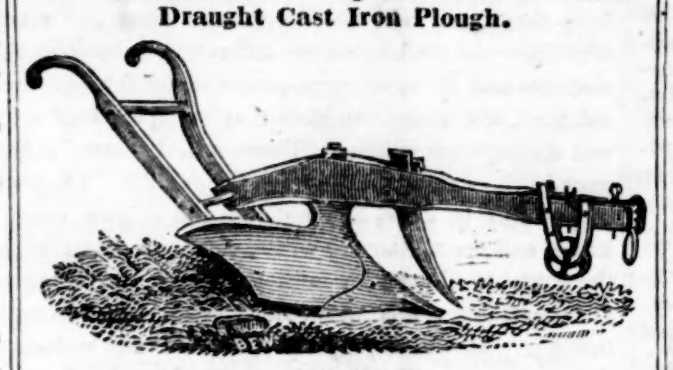
Among the ploughs which appear to approach the desired points of ease in working, and excellence in execution, the one patented by Prouty and Mears, a cut of which is given below, appears to have taken a high rank in the estimation of farmers that have used it.—These ploughs have received commendations and premiums from the American and Franklin Institutes, from the Mechanics' Fair, the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, and at various ploughing matches have carried off the prizes awarded the best ploughs; but the proprietors prefer that these ploughs should stand on their own merits, when tested by the skilful and intelligent farmer.

In a note, the proprietors say:—

"It is thought important that the plough separate the furrow slice in the best form, raise it with the least resistance on the mould board, deliver it bottom upwards in the furrow level with that last turned, covering all vegetable and other matter growing or lying on the surface, and so far destroying the cohesion of its particles, as readily to admit the genial influences of the sun, air and water, those powerful agents of fermentation; thus will the roots of plants grown after such ploughing, readily penetrate the sod, in search of such food as is prepared for their sustenance. The construction, and quality of the materials, it is hoped will meet with the approbation of the Genesee farmers, as they have with those of the east. Communications, post paid, addressed to D. Prouty & Co., Boston, Mass., or to John Mears, Springwater, Livingston county, N. Y., will meet with attention."

Specimens of the above plough, and of Buckminster's Corn-planter, will be exhibited in Rochester city shortly, and at Springwater, when farmers will be enabled to judge of their merits.

Prouty and Mears' Improved Patent Center Draught Cast Iron Plough.



[Fig. 31.]

THE PROSPECT.

June has come, the crops for the year are now mostly in, and many of them in so advanced a state, that a tolerable accurate estimate of the result may be arrived at; extraordinary events excepted.

Never since 1820 has a more favorable spring for farming operations blessed the cultivator of the soil; the weather fine, the soil dry, the temperature elevated, and every thing calculated to give courage and activity. The wheat, which is our great crop, came through the winter finely; the frosts which alternate with the fair days of March, and sometimes of April, were so few and light, as not to produce their usual effects in lifting wheat from the soil, and consequently no time has been lost by the plant in gaining the ground always lost in such seasons. Its appearance was never better, and from the quantity sown, should no unforeseen accident occur to it, the crop must be a heavy one.

The spring grains, such as spring wheat and barley, were got in in good order, and earlier than usual; both look well now, though the wet weather about the commencement of this month, and the consequent low temperature, has had the effect of partially retarding its growth, and on some lands not drained may have produced some injury to the plants. Of both these grains, and also oats, larger quantities than usual have been sown, and all promise well.

Corn, having the advantage of the fine weather of the middle of May, come up well; but we have heard some complaints from those whose seed had not sprouted before the rains of the last of the month. This plant makes slow advances in weather of a low temperature, but its roots are fixing themselves in the soil, and a genial sun will soon drive off the sickly hue that wet cloudy weather is sure to occasion. More ground has been planted with corn this year, than for many previous years, and we trust there will be no cause for regretting this extension of culture.

Of the roots, no opinion of any real value can at present be formed. The quantity of potatoes planted is large, their extensive use in fattening pork either alone or in connexion with grain, has probably caused this increase. The field culture of the turnep, beet, and carrot is increasing; as it is found that the only way to keep the necessary amount of stock, and yet supply the demand for grain, is to grow more roots.

Fruit in general promises well. As was to be expected, those orchards that were so heavily burdened the last year, will produce a less crop the present one; but there is every present indication that the supply in general will be an abundant one. Other fruits, such as cherries, plums, peaches, &c. look finely; and should the latter succeed the present year, we hope that some efforts to renew our fast disappearing peach orchards will be made.

The insects that prey on the labors of the husbandman have not as yet caused much damage. Some have complained of the wire worm, and from the numbers of the May bug that showed themselves the present year there is some reason to apprehend, that the larvæ of this destructive insect is on the increase. We may yet be compelled to adopt the practice of lighting fires during the few evenings of the appearance of this insect, and by decoying him into the flame, put an effectual stop to their multiplication.

On the whole, never at this season of the year has the farmer in the prospect before him, had more abundant cause for gratulation. It is probable that partial failures from local causes may occur in some districts, but a general failure of the main crops, can scarcely be apprehended. We rejoice in this prospect, as in the success of the farming interest we have an unfailing pledge of the substantial prosperity of the whole country. A slight decline in prices in some respects may be anticipated, but increased products will doubtless to the mass equalize the profit, while it will most materially relieve those laboring and industrious classes, the mechanic and the manufacturer. That country can never be poor, in which the granaries are filled with the products of the soil, and that soil is owned by the hardy, intelligent, and industrious men by which it is cultivated.

THE AGRICULTURAL INTEREST.

We are happy in giving the following extract from a letter to us, from Mr. Triplett, of Kentucky, on the important subject of Legislative aid to Agriculture. We have the more pleasure in doing this, as the sentiments are just, and forcibly expressed, and agree with the opinions so often expressed by us in the Farmer, and which we are confident will ultimately prevail. It is but a few days since an honorable Senator, in his place at Albany, declared, that the project of aiding agriculture by legislative enactments was '*the most arrant quackery.*' If quackery, in this case, why is not aid from the same source, quackery in other cases? It was this Legislative quackery that incorporated our colleges and *endowed* them; that surrounded the profession of the law with exclusive privileges and numberless ways of acquiring wealth and power, that are forbidden to the people; and by so doing, placed *that man* in a situation to sneer at, and injure those who aided his rise. When what are termed the professions ask for aid, the vaults of the treasury are thrown open; when those who have deposited the cash there, ask for the *use* of a few thousand dollars of their own money, they are repulsed with taunts and sneers. The evidence is daily becoming more clear, that farmers must see to their own legislation, or it will be left undone. But to our correspondent:—

"Considering the vast importance to our country, of the Agricultural interest—it being the very basis of all others—without the prosperity of which all others dwindle; it is strange that it is so overlooked and neglected in the legislation of our country. Manufactures, commerce and navigation, are all found to be benefitted by a little legislative aid, but agriculture is supposed not to need it. I am against too much legislation. It is one of our errors, and ever will be in a republic. But while there is too much on other subjects, there is too little on agriculture. I will illustrate the evil felt in some instances, and show how legislation might remedy it. We see accounts in the journals of the day, of improved farming implements, and labor saving machines, &c. A farmer purchases, say, a reaping machine. It does not answer. He curses the impostor, and forswears all humbugs. He is told he did not get the right article. But how is he to know the right one. Certificates have little value; we believe in none of them.—In the course of time perhaps a neighbor gets the right implement, and when he sees its operation, he will buy one. I have had myself a knowledge for several years of various improvements, which I have been anxious to adopt, but have waited to see them introduced and

proved by others, not wishing to be humbugged myself. In these improvements, real ones spread but very slowly. How rapidly would our prosperity advance, if the march of those improvements could be expedited, and how much could that be done, if each state would have a *model farm*, where all reported improvements could be fully tested, and reported on by authority that could be confided in; and where the operation of the thing itself could be seen. There, too, manufactories of the most improved articles could be established, and the implements or machines furnished at the most reasonable rates. Pure seeds, plants, &c. could also be had at such a farm; and what would be the expense? $6,000 pet annum would borrow $100,000, which would amply suffice for the establishment, including a large farm, which would be annually increasing in value, and the income from which might be made, by good management, much, if not all of the interest on the cost; for the implements, seeds, &c. would all be considered as proved, and the demand for them would be almost unlimited. There, too, could be demonstrated the best methods of agriculture in every branch. Much speculation would be put to rest. Any improvement, when shown to be such, would be quickly adopted, and agriculture advance with rapid strides. I do not pretend to say, there may not be more advisable modes of advancing the agricultural interest; but I am well convinced that such a plan would render it a great service. The best stocks of domestic animals could be concentred on these farms; all grains, seeds, implements, machinery, &c. &c., and an agricultural school might be attached to it.

Such plans, or similar ones, I believe, have been repeatedly suggested; but it seems, that as yet, the public mind has not been sufficiently enlightened to be ripe for it. I think, however, that every agricultural journal ought tb urge it, until the subject is taken up, and some such plan adopted."

PRUNING.

A great variety of experiments made in Europe by Knight, Van Mons, and Thaer, and in this country by Buel, Kenrick, and others, have been made on the subject of pruning trees, and though the results did not perfectly agree on all points, yet they seem to fully justify the general conclusion that the best time for pruning trees is that period in midsummer in which there appears a cessation of the sap's ascent, and which lasts some three or four weeks. Those who have paid attention to the growth of trees must have remarked that the period of increase is divided into two seasons, during the first of which, or the one most active, the shoots that form fruit, flower, or seed buds are formed; and the other or later summer's growth is confined to the shoots that produce wood buds only. "After the second growth is completed the effects of the descending sap in the formation of new bark, is apparent in the healing up of new wounds,in parts of the stem or branches, which now proceeds with more activity than during any other season of the year. Branches pruned off smooth at the stem, though the latter be young, healthy, and containing a perfect pith, before or shortly after the completion of the midsummer's growth do not produce shoots from the edge of the wounds caused by their removal which always happens more or less, when pruning is performed on free growing trees after the fall of the leaf, and before the full development of the spring shoots and leaves. It is to be observed however that the reproduction of branches from the edge of a wound is greatly assisted by leaving a portion of the branch or shoot, on the parent branch or stem." [Treatise on Planting.]

The end desired to be attained by the operation of pruning must be kept steadily in view, or injury instead of benefit may be the result. If the tree is intended for timber the leaves and buds that elaborate the sap, and increase the trunk by the formation of an annual circle of new wood should be kept as far from the root as possible, as in this way only can the greatest quantity of timber be produced. In this case, the trunk should be kept free from branches, the leading shoot should carefully be preserved,and the top kept in a crown like form. Nature must be followed in this respect, and the tall beautiful trunks of our native forest trees will be the result. For fruit, a low branching top, spread and exposed to the sun as widely as can be, is to be preferred; and hence the leading shoot when the tree is at a proper height must be carefully cut out, and the lateral branches cut and pruned with direct reference to this effect. Fruit trees must be pruned frequently, or their tops become woody, close, and the fruit will necessarily prove inferior.

EGGS.

Almost every body loves good fresh eggs, and with or without glasses or silver spoons, can contrive to eat them; whether boiled or fried, raw or roasted, made into custard with sugar and spices, or swallowed gently with a bordering of old Port, they agree with the palate and the stomach, and neatly laid out with fair slices of bacon, they form a repast within the reach of all, and to be despised by none. But though most farmers keep fowls, and *raise* their own eggs, there are many who have not yet learned the difference there is in the richness and flavor of eggs produced by fat and well fed hens, and those from birds that have been half starved through our winters. There will be some difference in the size, but far more in the quality. The yolk of one will be large, fine colored, and of good consistence, and the albumen or white, clear and pure; while the contents of the other will be watery and meagre, as though there was not vitality or substance enough in the parent fowl to properly carry out and complete the work that nature had sketched. In order to have good eggs, the hens should be well fed, and also provided during the months they are unable to come at the ground, with a box of earth containing abundance of fine gravel, (if of limestone, so much the better,) that they may be able to grind and prepare for digestion the food they receive. Fowls form no small item in the profits of the small farmer, and few creatures better repay the care and attention they receive. Of eggs, those of the domestic hen are decidedly the best; but those of both ducks and geese may be used for some of the purposes of domestic cookery. Eggs can be kept any length of time, if the air is perfectly excluded, and the place of deposit kept at a low temperature.

Mortality of the Honey Bee.

We sometimes hear the keepers of apiaries complain that in the first months of spring, as April or May, great numbers of their bees, in hives that contain abundance of honey, are found dead at the bottom of the hive; or if not dead, appearing sickly and unable to work, and this without any apparent cause to produce such an effect. We would suggest that a closer examination might show this mortality to be owing to the cause mentioned below; and if so, it would seem desirable that the dead bees, instead of being swept from the hive upon the ground, should be carefully gathered and burned, as the surest way to prevent the continuance of the evil.

It was a number of years since discovered by Swammerdam, Linnæus, and other observers, that some insects were infested with parasites which fed on their bodies, and ultimately destroyed them. Kirby discovered that the black bronze bee (*Andrena nigronea*) was at times the abode of the larvæ of the insect (*Stylops*), and Peck afterwards found that another insect, the (*Xenos*) was not unfrequently a parasite in the body of the wasp. That the honey bee (*Apis mellifica*) was so infested, does not seem to have been known to naturalists, until the fact was announced in a letter from Gen. Martin Field, of Vermont, to Professor Silliman, from which we make the extract:

"More than two years since, (1833,) one of my neighbors suggested to me his conjectures, that there was a parasite fly, that was injurious to the honey bee; since which time, we have fully ascertained the fact. I have a box now before me, containing a great number of dead bees, in which may be found the parasites, in both the pupa and the perfect state. Usually the bees become sickly, and unable to fly, when the parasites are in the larva state; but they sometimes live till the perfect insect emerges from the pupa. The larvæ is fixed at the inosculations of the dorsal segments of the abdomen of the bee, and is hardly discoverable by the eye, unless the abdomen be dissected. The larvæ is white, nearly two lines in length, and very much resembles a white worm or maggot. The pupa is nearly the size of the larvæ, and of a reddish brown color. The perfect insect is a nondescript, and bears a very slight resemblance to the (*Stylops,*) or (*Xenos*), or any other insect that has been found to be a parasite on the bee or wasp. It is of the class *Diptera* of Linn.—is little larger than the Hessian fly, but in color and form, is very unlike that insect."

We may remark, that modern entomologists, such as Kirby and Latreille, have made a new order of this singular class of insects, the *Stylops* and *Xenos*, with the name of Strepsiptera. Mr. Maccleay, in his remarks on these parasitic creatures, says:

"To the Deptera they have no visible affinity, and scarcely any analogy, except such as we might expect from their proximity to the *Hymenoptera*."

Neither Kirby, Latreille, Peck or Wilson, make any allusion to their attacking the honey bee, though not uncommon in some kinds of the humble bee and wasp. The latter sometimes survives the attack, and after the escape of the perfect insect from her body, becomes active and vigorous. As hinted above, the careful destruction of bees that are found dead, thus preventing the escape of the larvæ, and the formation of the perfect insect, would be the most effectual method that suggests itself of preventing their propagation, and the consequent sickness and mortality of this useful and interesting insect, the bee.

FEEDING MILCH COWS.

Natural grass is the first and best of all food for cows; and where this can be obtained in sufficient quantities nothing further can be desired. Sweet and nutritious, grass gives a richness and flavor to milk, attainable from no other source; and which milk produced from grains, distiller's wash, or roots, can never equal. Of the grasses, lucerne is considered the best, and the clovers next; and as lucerne cannot with propriety be considered one of *our* cultivated grasses, perhaps we have nothing in this country that excels white clover for imparting a peculiar richness and even fragrance to milk. The grasses are best for the cow, when fed green; but the best method of feeding the grass to the animal has been matter of some dispute. The common method of turning the cow into the field at once, occasions the least trouble perhaps, but it is also the most wasteful; and where economy is to be consulted, some other method of feeding may be found preferable. Curwen found by experience that three acres of good grass, cut and fed to the cows, supplied 30 milch cows with 28 lbs. each, during 200 days. Their other food was hay of which they consumed little, and their health was excellent, and their milk superior. Mr. Curwen observes, "that to have supplied a similar number of cows with a like quantity for the same period, would, in the usual way of management, have required 75 acres of land for its production. And to have grazed such a number of cows at liberty, that length of time, must, it is obvious, have taken a very considerable number of acres."

If such is the saving that may be made by substituting labor for land in feeding cows, we think the subject well worthy the attention of dairy men, and milkmen, especially in the vicinity of our cities. If by employing the labor of one man through the summer months in carrying the grass to the cows instead of allowing them to gather or trample it down for themselves, twenty cows could be kept on land that now supports only ten, we think there can be no question as to the profit. Only the best and sweetest grasses can be used for carrying; but where meadows of this kind exist, and by proper attention to draining, manuring, and seeding, all may be made such; the quantity of grass that may be taken from them by successive cuttings is great. Because our meadows, the grass standing till nearly ripe before mowing, does not spring up at once, it by no means follows that when cut green, while the circulation is active and the roots vigorous that such would not be the case. Indeed the rapidity with which the grasses spring up in our rich pastures after being fed down by cattle, is sufficient proof of what nature is able to accomplish, when the efforts are not checked but aided by the skill of the husbandman.

INOCULATION OR BUDDING.

The propagation of fruit may be effected by planting the seeds, by grafting, and by budding. The uncertainty whether the fruit from the trees grown will be like those of the parent, prevents much reliance for choice fruit on the first method, and seeds are usually only sown to furnish stocks upon which to engraft or bud. On several accounts grafting is generally preferred to budding; but instances frequently occur in which it is desirable to propagate choice fruit when grafting cannot be practiced. Thus in the summer season grafting is impracticable; but then budding comes to our aid, and enables us to secure the advantages of grafting with little comparative risk. A bud may be considered an embryo plant, of the same species as the parent tree, possessing distinctly developed parts, and individual vitality, and of course when removed to a congenial place, capable of continued growth, and a reproduction of its species. In this transferrence of the bud from one place of growth to another, it is necessary that the plant into which the transfer is made, should be of the same genus of plants, and even the same species will usually be found most congenial. All the varieties of the apple and pear may be budded together; and the apricot, nectarine, and peach may be treated in the same manner. The plum and the peach are sometimes budded on each other; but the cherries are usually confined to stocks of the same kind of tree.

The time of budding is partly depending on the tree itself and partly on the vigor of its circulation. July and August are the usual months for budding, but the cherry frequently succeeds in June, and the nectarine &c. as late as September. The greater part of the failures that occur in budding arise from its being attempted at an improper time; when the bark does not separate freely, or when the new wood for the year is so far formed that new unions are not readily made. A sure indication of the tree being in a suitable state for budding is the bark peeling freely; this showing that the cambium or new wood is at that stage of formation which best secures the union and consequent life of the bud. To ensure success it is requisite that the bud should be mature; that the bark of the stock separate freely; and that the operation be performed in such a manner, that the introduced bud come in perfect contact with the stock.

The common practice in budding is to separate the bud in such a way that the longer portion is below the bud; consequently in making the incision in the bark, the bud is crowded downwards from the cross slit of the stock. As it is well known however that the elaborated juices that form the cambium or new wood, proceeds from the leaves downwards, it was suggested that the cross cut made in the bark at the *upper* end of the perpendicular incision must have a tendency to cut off the downward flow of sap, and thus retard if not entirely prevent in many cases the desired union of the bud and stock. To remedy this it has been proposed by some French and English fruit growers to make the cross cut at the *lower* end of the incision, and then having the bark to which the bud is attached, longest *above* the bud crowd it in the incision upwards, instead of downwards as in the usual mode. This by some is considered a decided improvement, but though its philosophy may be plausible, its superiority in effect to the former mode, can only be tested by experience.

Every farmer should set apart a few rods of ground for nursery purposes, in which a supply of young trees such as apples, peaches, plums, cherries, &c., may be kept, and these when of a suitable age, say two or three years, should be grafted or inoculated with the choicest varieties, and then they can be transplanted or otherwise disposed of at pleasure. Many kinds of fruit trees are so short lived, particularly in our climate, that unless some efforts are made to ensure a supply, and renew them as they fail by age or other causes, we must for the greater part of the time be destitute of some of the most desirable fruits. We may mention for the convenience of those who in moving or travelling from one part of the country to another, would be glad to secure a supply of buds of some favorite fruit for propagation; that if the twigs on which good buds are found are cut, (and the longer the better) and immediately deprived of their leaves by cutting the leaf stem with a pair of scissors or a sharp knife, and then wrapped in wet moss, or even wet cloths, they may be preserved for many days in a fresh and healthy state, so as scarcely to fail of growing where skilfully inserted.

Average Product Per Acre.

From a report in the *Cheshire Farmer*, it appears that the crops in the town of Dublin, (N. H.) in 1838, averaged as follows:

Crop.	Whole No. Acres.	Average per acre.
Wheat,	91	19 bushels.
Rye,	34	10
Barley,	112	24 2-5ths.
Oats,	101	27
Indian Corn,	121	28 2-5ths.
Potatoes,	199	179
Ruta Baga,	7½	530

Maple Sugar.—In the same town, 21,300 lbs. Maple Sugar were made, averaging about 107 lbs. to each family.

NOTICES.

Baltimore Farmer—New Arrangement.

We have received the first number of a *new series* of this valuable agricultural journal, under the title of 'American Farmer, and Spirit of the Agricultural Journals of the Day;' conducted by that able and veteran editor, J. S. Skinner, Esq. This pioneer of American journals devoted to farming, for some twenty years it has rendered essential service to agriculture; now appears in an enlarged and greatly improved form, worthy of its high reputation, and the importance of the cause it advocates. In all discussions relating to silk, the culture of the mulberry, and the raising of improved animals, the American Farmer is high authority, its present editor having paid particular attention to these interests; and on no point of practical agriculture will his information be found limited or deficient. We need not say that we most heartily welcome back to the editorial ranks the veteran editor of the American Farmer, and trust, that as he has engaged in the place for "the love of the thing," he may meet the ample support he is sure to deserve. We cordially recommend the American Farmer to the notice of the agriculturist. S. Sands, Publisher, Baltimore; and letters addressed to him, or J. S. Skinner, will be promptly attended to. Weekly, $2,50 per annum.

Hudson Mirror, and Columbia County Farmer,

Is the name of a semi-monthly quarto of eight pages, devoted to polite literature, agriculture and the fine arts. If the talented farmers of Columbia come up to the aid of this journal, they may make it one of the most valuable papers of that county, and one which will render essential service to the cause of agriculture. It is got up in good style, and the first numbers appear to be well filled. P. Dean Carrique, Publisher, Hudson, N. Y. One dollar per annum.

New Journal.

We have received the first number of the "Meteorological Register and Scientific Journal," published at Ogdensburgh, in this state. It is in the quarto form, eight pages per month, price two dollars per annum. Publisher, James H. Coffin. Such a journal, if well conducted, and this first number promises well, can hardly fail of being useful, by collecting Meteorological records from various places, and thus furnishing the means of comparison, from which valuable inferences may be drawn. The value of such tables are mainly depending on the time and accuracy with which they have been kept; and if the excellent plan devised by the Regents of the State University shall be fully carried out, and Reports from all the Academies rigorously exacted, New-York will soon have a mass of meteorological facts collected, which will be of essential service in determining the character of our climate, and the changes that are governed by atmospheric causes. We wish the new Journal every success.

Structure of the Trunks of Trees.

Mr. Herrick, near Bangor, Me., has communicated to Gen. Dearborn, of Boston, some interesting facts respecting the peculiar shape assumed by the trunks of trees planted in that vicinity, particularly in those of some rows of elms planted for ornament at Bangor. Careful admeasurement, in a great number of instances, showed that the shape assumed by these trunks was that of an ellipse, of which the longest diameter was the greatest, on an average, by about one-eleventh part. In every case the longest diameter was from the N. W. to the S. E. or nearly so; thus clearly proving that this peculiar organization was in this case an arrangement of nature to guard against the powerful influence of the prevailing winds which are found to proceed from one or the other of the quarters named. The forest trees in the vicinity appeared to be under the influence of the same cause, though the distinction was not so marked as in the case of the trees planted in the open lands. Mr. H. is inclined to attribute much influence to the sea winds in producing this result; a circumstance, we think, quite probable; for although the tops of our evergreens (hemlocks) have an invariable inclination from the S. W. to the N. E., we have not been able to determine any certain variation of the trunks from the usual circular form.

SHEEP TICKS.

Farmers sometimes ask how they shall contrive to free their flocks from the sheep tick, since every one is aware that if these pestiferous insects abound, it is impossible to keep the animal in good order, or prevent a serious diminution in the quantity of wool. Some have recommended mercurial ointments, but these are always dangerous, and should only be resorted to in cases of necessity arising from disease, such as the scab, or other obstinate cutaneous diseases. Some have proposed dipping in an infusion of tobacco, and this would, in our opinion, be preferable to ointments containing mercury; but this occasions considerable trouble, and to be efficacious, must be performed with more care than is usually given to such matters.

We will tell how we manage this matter. We do not keep a large flock, only one or two hundred, yet our system is applicable to any number, and for several years past not a tick, or scarcely one, has been seen on our sheep. In the first place, we wash our sheep in a large tub, of such capacity that the sheep cannot reach the bottom, and wide enough at top to allow two to wash at once. The tub is kept full and running over slowly, by a small stream conducted into it, of clear, pure water. In washing our sheep, soap is always used at the rate of about two gallons to a hundred, and after a few have been washed, the water in the tub will be strongly impregnated with soap, or in other words, will be soap suds. This cleans the wool and the sheep thoroughly, and by letting the sheep remain a few days after washing in a clean pasture, the wool becomes again saturated with the oil which is so essential to its softness and elasticity. This is the first step in freeing the animal from ticks. At shearing, it is well known when this operation is performed as it should be, and no places where it is only half cut by the shears, or taglocks around the belly and legs are left to give the vermin a hiding place, that they will quit the old sheep for the lamb, in the wool of which they find a secure place of retreat. To get rid of them fully and finally, we now *shear our lambs*. Some farmers apprehend that such a process would injure the lambs, but the experiments we have purposely made, and the experience we have had, has convinced us that such fears are groundless, either as respects the animal itself or the effect on the next clip of wool. Let any farmer whose sheep are rendered poor and sickly by the constant irritation of these insects, try washing them in soap suds, and at the proper time shearing the lambs, and we think he will make no more complaints of ticks on his sheep.

COMMUNICATIONS.

EDUCATION OF FARMERS—No. 3.
Family Cabinets.

Mr. Tucker—If I were asked what is the first step to be taken to give to American education the character it ought to possess, I should answer without hesitation, let the parents of each of the two millions of American families procure for their children, a "Cabinet of Nature and Art,"—rather, *let parents encourage and aid their children in procuring* "Family Cabinets" *for themselves.* This step can be taken by any family, especially any farmer's family, on any day or hour, when the parents come to the conclusion that such a step is desirable. It requires no school house or hall of Science to be erected, no teacher or learned professor to be employed, no library, not a single volume to be procured, not one cent to be expended, or the least sacrifice of money, time, or pleasure to be made, by any family to take this first, best step for the elevation of American character. Let any parents, on any day or hour, say to their children, you may NOW see how many minerals, or different kinds of stones, or plants or shells, or any thing else that is curious, you can find before night, and the great work will not fail to be commenced. If it should be done by each of the two millions of families in our Republic, on the fourth of July next, more would be done for American Schools, American Education and American character, than if $100,000 should be subscribed by the citizens of each of the eleven hundred counties in the Union, for the erection of a college in each, for the benefit of their children.

Some parents will say, that is a very curious notion. I don't want my children bringing stones and weeds and clam shells into the house. They are always troubling me with these things, and I have had a great deal of trouble in getting them off from such foolish notions. I have even had to punish them before they would give them up. Undoubtedly, and many of these same children are now undoubtedly in penitentiaries, as a consequence. When driven from these rational amusements provided for them by their Creator, which every child seeks as his richest source of delight; they resort to some of the artificial, unnatural and demoralizing sports, provided by the cupidity or evil designs of unprincipled men. When compelled to abandon their walks for examining, collecting, and preserving specimens of minerals, plants, shells, insects, and other productions of nature, and punished by their teachers or their parents for *drawing pictures* of the various objects of nature, appearing to them so beautiful, they resort, in self-defence, to such company as they can find, whether good or bad, to tippling shops, to some sports of petty gambling, such as pitching coppers or coits, rolling nine pins, playing cards, horse racing, or some other exercises, which to many of our most promising youths open a road directly to the penitentiary, or to habits of idleness, dissipation and quick destruction.

But some parents will almost indignantly enquire perhaps, do you mean to charge us, with compelling our children to tippling shops, gambling houses and penitentiaries? To such enquiries, I say yes, but for no other reason but because the charge is true; and for leading them, by a candid examination of the case, to satisfy themselves that it is true or false.

Without attempting, on the present occasion, to bring to view the numerous advantages of "Family Cabinets," I will mention three or four reasons why they should in all cases constitute a part, and an essential part, of household furniture, especially for farmers.

First, they will interest and instruct children, long before they can comprehend any thing contained in books. It would probably be difficult to find a more improper instrument of instruction to put into the hands of a child under five years of age, than a common spelling book. If any should doubt the correctness of this assertion, they need only cast their eye over almost any spelling book used in schools, and compare its contents with the mind of a little child, and their doubts will probably all be removed. But with the objects of nature, with the names, properties, and uses of minerals, plants, shells, and animals, also with the works of art, and with the operations of nature and the arts, children begin to form an acquaintance, almost at the moment they open their eyes upon the light of Heaven. This aquaintance they extend more widely and more minutely, until they are driven from their enquiries by their teachers or parents, to the bla, blo, blu system, or in the language of a little girl of five years, in answer to an enquiry, what she did at school, to "*say A and B and set on a bench.*"

Second, the knowledge of things acquired by children under the aid of family cabinets, puts them in a way literally, to *learn themselves* the arts of reading, writing, spelling and speaking correctly, without any trouble, and almost without time or expense, but with great pleasure; as books in such a course become the sources of entertaining knowledge, instead of a medley of unmeaning sounds. Children are now to be found in almost every part of the country, who read with great propriety, and who write, speak and spell correctly, who have never spent a moment over spelling books, and but little time in any way for learning to read, write, or spell.

Third, by family cabinets, embracing some simple articles of apparatus for trying experiments in chemisty, natural philosophy, and other departments of science, children at an early age, store their minds with many of the most important and fundamental principles of useful knowledge, which furnish them, on all occasions in future life, with a valuable stock on hand, or with important instruments for conducting any department of science, or any branch of business, but above all, the business of farming. Lord Brougham some where very correctly remarked, that if we were deprived of what we learn under three years of age, we should be the most ignorant beings upon the face of the earth.

Fourth, habits of industry and attention to business are most successfully cultivated, by these domestic collections and instruments of knowledge, so eagerly sought and so industriously used by all children, if permitted by their parents. If time and the occasion permitted, numerous examples might be given, of young persons with habits of untiring industry, and of the strictest attention to any business they might undertake, *voluntarily* acquired by their persevering and eager pursuit after science afforded them by these natural and agreeable instruments of knowledge.

Fifth, the study of the works of our Creator, is, perhaps, the best protection of morals, which can be provided for the young. Rarely, if ever, have young persons or old persons, with a taste for studying the works and the laws of our Creator, been found in the ranks of vice, or addicted to habits of dissipation. As every person, without exception, when a child, has a taste for this study, it is a fair conclusion, that if that taste was encouraged and cultivated in children by their parents and teachers, they would seldom, if ever, lose it, or substitute for it a love of vice and dissipation, now hastening thousands to ruin.

Sixth, collections made by young people for their domestic cabinets, furnish them with materials for similar collections in schools, lyceums, and many places of more public resort. Court houses, town houses, hotels, steamboats, canal boats, the offices of railroads and canals, also the offices of lawyers and physicians, post offices, stores, and even barbers' shops, have sometimes been furnished with these instruments of useful and entertaining knowledge, from the specimens collected or prepared by children, during their early scientific amusements.

Seventh, the diffiusion of knowledge over the globe, has already been greatly advanced by the materials of family cabinets. Specimens taken from them have been sent to nearly every missionary station upon the globe, and to numerous other schools, lyceums, and individuals, in the four quarters of the earth.

Eighth, the children of farmers enjoy peculiar facilities for collecting family cabinets, and great inducements to improve them. Free from the excitements and temptations of cities, and surrounded with the works of our Creator in great profusion, variety and beauty, the children of every family in the country, whose parents will permit them, may, in the course of a single season, make a collection of great value and beauty. By the combined efforts of parents and children, such collections have sometimes been made in the course of a few years, which have been valued by lovers of science at one or two hundred dollars, and would not be sold for a still larger sum.

In some sections of our country, especially among the German farmers in Pennsylvania, a "Cabinet of Nature and Art" is to be found in every family, aided by "Social Lyceums," or weekly meetings of neighbors for the improvement of each other in various departments of useful and entertaining knowledge. Such, it is hoped and believed will be the case in every section and in every family of our Republic, at least by

Your friend,

J. Holbrook.

On the Phenomena of Vegetation.—No. 4.

We now come to another property displayed by nature, in prolonging the existence of varieties, and not being aware that it has hitherto been treated as a general principle by any Physiologist, I approach it with considerable diffidence.

The preliminary observation will be readily conceded, that no soil can nourish a long succession of crops, of the same species, and bring their seeds to maturity, without deterioration. I say "and bring their seeds to maturity," because it is a popular belief, (but how correct I am not prepared to admit,) that any garden vegetables may be advantageously cultivated on the same plot of ground, year after year, with the assistance of manures, if it be not permitted to run to seed. Now there are two theories by which this fact is attempted to be explained. The first is, that all plants are not nourished by the same principles, but that they exhaust the soil of those only which are essential to their individual nutrition. The other is, that plants exude by their roots, substances useless to their vegetation, and that the accumulation of these exudations is injurious to the subsequent nourishment of plants of the same species. In my opinion *both* these theories are fundamentally correct. On the one hand the advocates of exhaustion admit that, by a rotation of cropping,—by cultivating, alternately or successively, two or more crops pertaining to different vegetable families, the soil will be renovated. But it is obvious that if the deterioration were to be ascribed to exhaustion alone, the soil could not be renovated or qualified for the reproduction of the first crop by means of the second, although belonging to another family, because this second crop could only exhaust the soil of the principles necessary to its nutrition, without returning any *succedaneum* for those which had been abstracted by the first. The deterioration therefore does not depend upon exhaustion alone. On the other hand, the supporters of the theory of excretion admit, that the exudations of the one plant may contribute to the nourishment of the other. And if so, is it not evident that this other plant must absorb, or exhaust the soil of those principles thus contributed by the first? It is on these grounds then that my conclusion is formed, that this deterioration is dependant upon exhaustion and exudation conjointly.

This remarkable deterioration is not restricted to the annuals and biennals, for it is distinctly perceptible in the case of the Raspberry and of the Peach tree, and the change of timber that occurs on the clearing of land, or on its destruction, casually, by storm, or intentionally, by fire, (a measure frequently resorted to by the Indian tribes,) evinces that it occurs in all cases, though perhaps in different degrees, as a necessary consequence of maturity in vegetation.

It was long since observed in Sweden, that, when the

pine forest was cut down, an undergrowth of Birch appeared. Again, we are told that, in the neighborhood of Washington, where the woods are for the most part of Oak, whenever a field or farm has been first cleared and cultivated, and afterwards deserted, (as is common with individual fields,) the whole is speedily covered with young cedars, though there be none of this tree in the neighborhood. In the Monthly Genesee Farmer for Sept. 1838, an instance is noticed of a dense growth of Maple, Basswood and Elm, being succeeded by White Oak, Black Oak, Butternut, White Poplar, Common Willow, Walnut, Hickory, and Black Cherry, all varieties of which not one was growing near at the time the clearing was made, and most of them not within three fourths of a mile. And I myself have observed the Pine wood in Canada succeeded by White Oak, dwarf Oak and Sassafras, and a mixture of Beech wood, Iron wood, and other hard timber, followed by a growth of Pine.*

In pursuing the investigation of this phenomenon, it will be necessary, in order to prevent misapprehension, to observe that *three* generations of trees have now to be kept in view, viz: that just cut down, which we shall denominate the *late* growth; its predecessor, which shall be called the *preceding* growth, and its successor, the *succeeding* growth. Now of one thing we are perfectly assured, and that is, that this *succeeding* vegetation must have arisen either from seeds, or from germs or buds. These must have been the produce of one or other of its predecessors. But they cannot have been derived from the *late* growth, because that was of a different species. They must therefore have originated with the *preceding* growth, for it is indisputable that, if the late crop must be followed, so it must have been preceded by a variety of timber of a nature different from itself. But not to dwell upon the improbability of seeds, (except perhaps the *Coniferæ*,) and especially of nuts retaining their vegetative powers on or near the surface of the ground during a whole vegetable generation, a period of not less than a century, let me point out the utter impossibility of the hypothesis in one instance at least. The Sassafras, (a semi-tropical production,) was never known to mature its nuts in Canada; but it springs up most abundantly in the light soils of the London, and in some parts of the Home District, wherever the ancient pine forest has been hewn down, or destroyed by fire. There can be no question however, that this growth of Sassafras cannot have proceeded from seeds.

But if these be saplings which have arisen from germs or buds, how have they been produced and how preserved? Let me recall attention to the fact that nature evinces a tendency to protrude roots at a germ or leaf bud. But this property of the bud is reciprocal for the root under favorable circumstances produces germs and shoots. Hence the abundant growth of suckers which infest our plantations of fruit and flowering trees and shrubs, and hence the practice, resorted to by gardeners, to produce young plants of Roses, Hawthorns, &c., by making cuttings of the roots of the more vigorous stocks, and planting them in a favorable situation, and in a soil possessing, along with the principles of vegetation, nothing either positively or negatively injurious to the growth of the species so treated.

It is said that these cuttings must be derived from the roots of the more vigorous stocks, for it is well known that they will not readily succeed when the stock is in a state of even casual decay, and of course they cannot be expected to do so at all when, according to nature, its limited existence is nearly exhausted. Now in passing through our forests it will be observed that not one in ten thousand of the trees have apparently attained 200 years of age. But we have seen that hard wood trees can exist in very favorable situations to nearly if not fully a thousand years, and if so, it is evident that the majority of our forest trees, although they may be *casually*, are not *naturally* in a state of decay.

Besides, it will be remarked that the brush or underwood is generally of the same species with the timber itself, consisting of seedlings, the produce of its fruit. But while these seedlings are, as regards the principle of vitality, in their full vigor because they have been but recently derived from seeds, they may be, and often are, as regards actual growth, more stunted than usual in young trees of this description. This may in a part be ascribed to the shading and suffocating influence of the surrounding timber, but cut down that timber, if it has attained maturity, and instead of the underwood being thereby benefitted, its certain destruction will be accelerated. Notwithstanding the casual or intentional destruction of this timber, however, its roots still remain in the ground, and it is now my object to show that it is to germs arising from these roots, that we are indebted for the successive changes of timber before adverted to.

But, it will be asked, how is it possible that these germs could have existed thus long dormant, for the intervening crop must have lasted for at least a century? Why did they not immediately germinate on the ground being cleared of their authors? And why do they continue torpid, while the germs of another species of timber are pushing with vigor? All these questions may, I apprehend, be easily answered on the principles now detailed.

It is evident that if there be any soundness in my arguments, or truth in the conclusions thence deduced, such must be equally applicable to the germs of the *late* and of the *preceding* growths; but for the sake of distinctness, let us here be supposed to confine our arguments, in the first instance, to the late growth. Now it has been shown that this growth, when removed, might possibly be in a state of debility, but this debility, it is evident, did not proceed from the exhaustion of the limited age assigned by nature, it must therefore have been the result of its unfavorable locality. What then were the unfavorable circumstances attending this locality? Now the most obvious is certainly the defilement of the soil, which, if not positively destructive of its vital existence, has been rendered negatively unfavorable to its vigorous vegetation. But this unfavorable circumstance thus producing the debility of the removed timber, had been progressively increasing in strength of operation until the *late* growth was cut down. On that event occurring, the soil was probably saturated with a principle prejudicial to the vegetation of the radical† germs of that growth, and consequently few or none of them were developed. But although this principle was negatively prejudicial to their development, it does not necessarily follow that it must be positively destructive to their existence, and my present object is to show that, in fact, it is not so, and that these germs do not die, but lie dormant until the soil be renovated and adapted for their vegetation, by the operation of a crop of another and a different species.

If, however, these germs thus lie dormant, it will be admitted, by parity of reasoning that the radical germs of the *preceding* growth must still be in the ground in a state of torpidity, and the soil formerly unfavorable to their vegetation, being by means of the *late* crop renovated and qualified for their nutrition, those dormant germs of the *preceding* growth, different of course in species from that now cut down, are revived, developed and vegetate with vigor.

Doubtless to this theory it will still be objected, that the supposition that these germs could remain thus long dormant, and retain their vegetative powers, is not merely hypothetical, but highly improbable. To say nothing of the instance of the Sassafras before adduced, let me remind such objectors however of the means artificially resorted to for preserving, in this state, the potatoe and other perennials, with bulbs, &c., periodically renewed, and that these bulbs and tubers are nothing more but germs, like the radical germs alluded to, attached, as they are, to a portion of the receptacle of prepared nutriment. Let it be remembered too, that these radical germs, with ordinary precautions, can be thus preserved dormant during the longest winters. Should this be insufficient, let them next recollect that this property has been already ascertained to exist in nature, by the recovery of varieties of vegetables which had been long deemed extinct, on turning up and exposing to the sun and atmosphere the subsoil of gardens attached to Monastic institutions in the old world, in which these vegetables had been cultivated in the "*olden* time," and if their scepticism, or ultra-scepticism, be still proof against these arguments, let me refer them to the following facts detailed in the "*Annales des Sciences Naturelles.*" "A very old mulberry tree was broken into four quarters by the wind in 1790. Two of the quarters were destroyed, the other two remained growing for a few years, but the last of them was removed in 1802. An Elder tree grew in the place of the Mulberry tree, without doubt from berries which had fallen into the middle of the old trunk of the latter. This Elder Tree *died* in 1826, and at the time of its languishing, about a dozen of Mulberry shoots started forth to the day. *M. Dureau de la Malle*, ascertained that these did not spring from seeds, but from the roots of the old Mulberry Tree, which had thus lain in the ground in an apparently inactive state, for twenty-four years, to send up shoots at last."

But the length to which this communication has extended, warns me to close thus abruptly. No. 5 will treat of Reproduction. W. Colvill.

Esquesing, U. C. May, 1839.

Cure for Grubs in the Head of Sheep.

Having read considerable in the Genesee Farmer concerning diseases in Sheep, and seeing no account of the Grub in the Head, I think proper to give the public a relation of a circumstance which took place with me when I had a small flock of sheep. It was in the latter part of winter, one of my flock was taken sick, and became so weak it could not rise without being lifted. I supposed its ailment to be the grub in the head; and knowing something of the virtue of flax seed oil, I resolved to try an experiment on it. I laid the sheep on its rump, or rather on its back, with its nose a little inclining backward, and poured in near a table spoon-full of the above oil, part in each nostril. The next morning the sheep was able to get up and eat with the rest of the flock, and speedily recovered. After that, and while I kept sheep, when I discovered any of them snotty nosed and coughing, (an indication of the grub,) I put a little oil in their noses as above, and they soon became clean and healthy. I do not remember that I failed in one instance; some of my neighbors also received benefit by the above process. T. B.

Columbiana County, Ohio, 5th mo. 18, 1839.

The Coming Harvest.

Mr. Tucker—Having just terminated a long and tedious journey over a distance of 400 miles, viz. from Cumberland Co. Pennsylvania, to this place, and having during my tour, paid every attention to the prospect of the crops, it is with great satisfaction I can inform you, that from all the information I could glean, there has not been such a favorable prospect for several years. In the vallies dividing the mountains in Pennsylvania, where wheat has failed for the last two or three seasons, there is the most cheering prospects of an abundant crop this season. Rye, in some places, although not a failure, was not so promising as the wheat crop, but this is the only exception I can make. The fruit crops are as far as in their present state, I was enabled to judge, most abundant. In some parts of Alleghany Co., there had been but a spare blossom of apples, but those had set freely. So that taking it as a

* Observation however obliges me to add, that this change of timber occurs, only when the antecedent growth has attained its maturity. If the timber be cut previous to this (as is the case in the Pine forest, in which my present temporary domicil is located,) the succeeding growth is of the same species with that which has been removed.

† My fellow subjects, the ultra-loyal of Canada and Great Britain, will not I hope take exception to my poor germs on account of their unlucky distinctive appellation. "*What is there in a name?*"

whole, the crop will be a fair average. In Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, and Orleans Co. N. Y., the wheat was in the most healthy and luxuriant condition. Other crops in like manner, displayed that deep green tinge, so sure an emblem of health and vigor. The orchards along the ridge road, are literally loaded. The grass in every part through which I passed, was most excellent. So that without a most untoward season now succeeds, there is every probability of most abundant crops. Yours in haste. A. G.

Queenston U. C. June 2d, 1839.

To Destroy Yellow Bugs.

Many modes of destroying, or preventing the ravages of the yellow bugs that infest cucumbers and melons have been recommended—such as charcoal dust, onion tops, ashes, tobacco juice &c. but after all *we* never found anything that could so surely be relied upon as the *fingers*. Visit the plants for a few days every night and morning, when the air is chilly or damp, and kill every one you can find. In a short time you will have destroyed the whole, for they do not travel far.—Ordinarily those which are found on plants, are hatched in the same garden. The course we speak of is attended with some trouble; but it is the most sure and effectual one we have ever been able to find out. In the middle of the day, when the sun is out warm, they are very active and are not easily taken; but before breakfast in the morning, and after tea at night, you may destroy all that are on the plants. A few days will make an end of them.—*Maine Cultivator.*

GRUB WORM.

A procrastinating farmer saves the lives of millions of grubs.

It seems to be a law of nature, that population should keep pace with the means of subsistence, and this law appears to be faithfully maintained throughout the animal kingdom, even down to the lowest grade of insects and worms. The grub worm, which is so destructive to Indian corn in the early stages of its growth, was much less numerous and injurious previous to the introduction of red clover. At that period, corn was generally planted where there had not been a sufficient quantity of tender, succulent food for it to subsist upon in any considerable numbers, and consequently its propagation and support was so precarious, that its increase was so slow as not to be observable. But when clover was generally cultivated, and by the most skillful arrangement of the rotation of crops, Indian corn succeeded it when the clover began to run out, the increase of the grub worm keeping pace with the means of subsistance, (for it feeds with avidity on the green, succulent stalks of clover,) propagated to a most alarming extent; and the sod being ploughed down in the spring for corn, and the pasture of the worms *being* by that means destroyed when the young corn began to vegetate and show itself above ground, the worms following out the law of self-preservation, and from no mischievous propensity, commenced feeding upon it more ravenously, and for some years it was almost doubted whether its culture would not have to be abandoned in some neighborhoods.

During this state of suspense, some observing, reflecting person, who no doubt had taken the trouble to examine into the character, habits and instincts of the grub, discovered that early in autumn it sought retreat some inches below the surface of the earth, and there prepared itself a domicil where it might repose in safely from storms and tempests till the vernal season arrived, and with it its accustomed food.

It was very rationally suggested, that if the sod was ploughed down late in the fall, and the habitations of the enemy turned topsy-turvey, that the walls might be broken in pieces by the winter frosts, and that the inhabitants being turned out of doors would perish, and the young corn be preserved from its greatest enemy. This was at first suggested as a *theory;* it was soon put to the test of *practice;* and every farmer knows the benefit that resulted from it. The grub soon became a much less formidable enemy; every one knew how to vanquish it, provided a pretty severe winter came to his aid. But farmers sometimes have treacherous memories as well as other folks, and the enemy having been supposed to have been completely routed, there was a strong propensity felt to resume old habits, and postpone ploughing corn ground till spring again, in accordance with ancient custom; this has often been done, and generally with the same result; the enemy not being entirely exterminated, increases his forces and proceeds again to the work of destruction.

A few years since, from winter setting in early, or some other cause, very little corn ground was ploughed in the autumn; the following spring the corn suffered severely from the depredations of the grub; but where portions of a field had been turned down in the fall, it furnished the usual protection; this was observable in numerous instances. The succeeding autumn, many farmers having a very short allowance of corn, and smarting under the infliction, went to turning up the ground in good earnest, and overturned the quarters of the enemy without compunction. The consequence was a general exemption from injury; it was pretty well followed out for a year or two afterwards, but last fall many began to relax and to forget the things that they had suffered, and much corn ground was permitted to remain undisturbed till this spring, and those thus circumstanced are now going on in the old track, that did very well before clover was brought into general cultivation and the sod ploughed down for corn.

Now let us observe and see if the laws of nature have been reversed to accommodate those who neglect fall ploughing.—*Farmers' Cabinet.*

Setting out Ruta Baga, Beets, &c.

A writer in the Farmer's Cabinet, says that when he sets out Ruta Baga &c., he ploughs a furrow. Then lays the plants in at the required distance, the tops resting upon the furrow slice. He then runs the plough along again, so that the furrow shall fall against the roots and cover them. He then follows with the hoe, and relieves those which are covered too much, or covers those which may not have earth enough about them. —*Maine Farmer.*

From the Farmer's Cabinet.

Rain Water Cisterns.

The importance of having a supply of water in the barn yard for cattle, has already been adverted to in the Cabinet, and it is a subject which cannot be too strongly impressed on the minds of farmers. The quantity of manure lost by driving stock twice a day to water, is much greater than is generally supposed, for the droppings are most copiously deposited immediately after dringing. In many situations water is easily procured from wells of moderate depth and at little cost, compared with the benefit derived; and in all situations cisterns may be built, and the water from roofs conveyed into them, at a very small expense, when contrasted with the advantage resulting from them. In this climate, the average fall of rain annually is about three feet, which furnishes about twenty gallons of water for each square foot of surface during the year, and from these data it is easy to estimate the quantity which may be collected from a building of any given dimensions A cistern will cost from 25 to 50 dollars, built after the best manner, and the best is always the cheapest in the end; the interest on this is from $1,50 to $3 a year, being a sum far below the expense and trouble of taking the cattle to water, without reference to the great loss of manure.

The follo ving table shows about the number of gallons of water contained in cisterns of the following diameters in the clear for each foot of their depth, viz:

Diameter.	Gallons.
5 feet	120
6 feet	170
7 feet	230
8 feet	308
9 feet	390
10 feet	480

By multiplying the number of gallons here stated by the depth of the cistern in feet, the product will be the number of gallons it will contain sufficiently near for any practical purpose.

The circular form is preferable to any other for a cistern, as it possesses greater strength with less materials; the principle of the arch keeping the parts combined together. Where they are constructed with brick, the width of a brick is sufficient for the thickness of the wall; where stone is used, the wall must necessarily be thicker, but the main matter is to have the mortar well made of the best clean sand, and not too much lime, and great care must be taken that all the interstices are well filled in, so as not to admit the water to escape. A coat of plastering well put on, of common mortar made in the best manner, with no more lime than is absolutely necessary to coat the sand and cause it to work evenly, has been found to be a complete protection against leakage, but the whole should be executed in a masterly manner by a careful, conscientious workman; otherwise, you will have a broken cistern holding no water. Those who are disposed to incur a little more expense, may procure Roman cement, or water lime, such as is much used in the construction of locks for artificial navigation for plastering, and when used, it should not be put on thick, but as evenly as possible; and in the use of this article a second coat should never be applied over the first; all that is done should be done at once; it will not adhere well and would soon peal off, and endanger the stability of the coat over which it is applied.

Cisterns have been in use from the earliest periods of which we have any historical account, and in modern times many have been constructed, which have been long in use, and which their owners would not dispense with for ten times their original cost; therefore let those who are destitute of other means of furnishing water to their stock in their barn yards, proceed at as early a period of time as practicable, to construct a cistern in the best manner, and in two years the saving of time, trouble and manure, will repay the cost with interest. Therefore

"Build for yourselves cisterns holding water."

Peat Meadows.

As planting is now over, some farmers will begin to think of their peat swamps. We have tried various modes to bring these into English grass, and have never failed to do it when we persevered.

On commencing our editorial course last January, we resolved not to attempt to lead our brother farmers into any expensive process of farming which might never yield an adequate return.

We well know it is quite easy to recommend the purchase of manures—the making of compost heaps—the raising of grain to supply the whole State, &c. &c. It is always much easier to show us how to lay out ten dollars on a farm than to show us how to get a return of ten for an outlay of five.

As our search is after truth, we shall ever admit into our columns the opinions and the statements of others who may think differently from us—for these opinions thus admitted we are not accountable, and we wish our patrons to take them for just what they are worth. But there is another class of opinions for which we feel ourselves responsible; and we must beg our readers to distinguish our own recommendations from the theories of others which are admitted into our columns.

On the subject of reclaiming peat lands and bog meadows, we have had many years of personal experience, and it is our wish that our readers may avail themselves of the advantages to be derived both from our failures and from our success.

Our first attempt to raise English grass on a low peat meadow was in 1826. Three of us joined together in the purchase of eight acres of peat land lying in the centre of the town of Framingham. Major B. Wheeler and John Ballard, 2d. were our partners in the purchase.

When we first made known our purchase and our object we were laughed to scorn by many of the inhabitants. We forgive every one of them for they have since confessed their error and are ever ready to applaud the advances we have made in cultivation. They were not then aware of the mischiefs they caused us by their want of faith—it was almost impossible to procure help to labor on this meadow—people required extra wages while laboring here, and when enquired of where they had been at work they were studious to conceal the scene of their operations. Fortunately the purchasers were all skilled in the use of the bog-hoe and of the paring-plough, and by taking hold and setting the example, others were at length induced to join them and "to dig on old centre meadow," because much less unpopular, after one summer's than at first.

We well remember an expression of one of the oldest inhabitants, J. Maynard, Esq., on this subject. He said he did not wish to live any longer after he should see one ton of good English hay grow on old centre meadow. He did live many years after. At a meeting of the trustees of Framingham Academy which stood on the border of this meadow, Doctor D. Kellogg, Rev. Mr. Packard, and J. Maynard, Esq. were present. Doctor Packard looked out on the old meadow and seeing it flooded enquired if it was *dammed*. "Yes," said Maynard, "and it always has been ever since I knew it."

This meadow was so miry in the centre that we could easily sink a rail eleven feet long endwise out of sight. Our first business was to drain off the water. We drained it off one foot and a half below the surface. We then commenced the paring and burning system. This paring is performed by hoes—sometimes assisted by a paring plough. When the meadow will bear up oxen a paring plough facilities the operation. Such a plough has a wide share—say one foot and a half—which branches out in a wing on each side. It has no mould plate and does not turn the furrow over. It only cuts the turf in slips and suffers it to lie to bear the team up; then with the hoes the sods are easily turned over to dry. When the paring plough is in good order one yoke of oxen will draw it through a strong hassock. The plough has a sharp coulter like that of an old fashioned wooden plough, and much resembles one except in the want of a mould plate and in the addition of a second wing to the sharp, branching out to the left, or land side.

In a dry summer the turf thus turned over will soon burn if fire is applied. It burns much better the first summer than if allowed to lie a year on the ground. It is well to commence paring and burning in June, for then we have the summer before us and can choose the dryest time for burning. When some of the sods are well on fire they may be heaped together and others not

so dry may be piled on till the heap becomes as large as a hundred of hay. When thus piled no small rains will quench the fires, and they will often burn for days of rainy weather.

Sometimes we are enabled to burn the sods as they lie when no rain comes for ten days in succession. Then all the labor of piling and of spreading about the ashes is saved. This is the easiest mode of preparing for the grass seed, but we are not always able to burn the sods thus.

When the heaps are burnt nothing remains to be done but to spread the ashes, sow the seed and rake it in with a common hand rake. This should be done early in September if we expect a good swarth of grass the next summer—but any time in September will answer for sowing these low meadows with herds grass and with red top. We have seldom seen these grasses winter-killed on these peat bottoms.

When we are unable to burn all the turf by the middle of September, we spread the ashes over the whole surface, after having repiled the unburnt sods in a new place, and we let these piles stand in shape of haycocks until another summer. They then will sometimes burn wholly down without any trouble, and their ashes should be spread on to the grass ground and a little seed should be sown on the ground where the heaps stood.

In this mode meadows may sometimes be prepared for the seed for ten or fifteen dollars to the acre. It sometimes costs thirty dollars. One advantage in this mode of reclaiming meadows is, we have manure enough in the peat ashes for two or three years, and we sometimes cut two tons to the acre without any other dressing. It cost us more than twenty dollars to subdue an acre of this meadow, for we were beginners and had no instruction. We sold about four acres of this reclaimed meadow to Dr. O. Dean, at two hundred dollars an acre. Such lands must have a new dressing once in a few years and if compost manure is carried on, it should consist, in part, of gravel. This being far preferable to sand. Not more than one peck of herds-grass (timothy) should be sown on an acre, for the seed will all grow, and when it is sown thicker it sometimes comes up and mats together so close as to check a thrifty growth. These bottoms become harder as the grass grows and we are often able in a few years to plough them and turn the wild grass under and seed them down anew as we do higher lands. We intend, in a future number, to show how we have subdued peat meadows by different processes.

In general, when gravel, or loam, or both are not nigh by, paring and burning are cheaper than any other mode.

Hen Coops.

Hens are useful—valuable, and as profitable as any stock on the farm, but, like other stock. they should have an enclosure by themselves at certain seasons of the year, especially in the spring when the sowing and planting begins. A very cheap and convenient yard may be made for them, by taking common boards, and a suitable number of posts.—nail the boards so nigh together that the hens cannot get through between them. This frame need not be more than four or five feet high. Then at the top nail on some shingles cut so make sharp points, and nail them up say two inches apart. Laths cut and nailed on are better—or narrow sticks split and made sharp, and nailed on, will answer the purpose. A door of convenient size may be made to go in at. The hens may then be put in and there will be little danger of their attempting to scale the walls. The sharp points sticking up all round, look too formidable. The philosophy of the thing, is this. The hen is not very good for flight, and when she attempts to fly over any thing, she almost invariably lights upon it, and then jumpr off. As they cannot light and rest upon these sharp points, they cannot get over very conveniently, and should any succeed in flying over at a single leap, their wings may be clipped. When put into one of these coops, food should be kept by them constantly, and also water—a little ashes for them to shake up among their feathers in a sunny day, some gravel to grind their food with, and some lime to manufacture into egg shells. When thus supplied they will lay as well, and do as well here as when out ranging about. We keep our hens and turkies in such a yard, and find that they do extremely well.—*Maine Farmer.*

White Wash for all Buildings inside or out.

Take clean lumps of well burnt lime, slacked. Add one-fourth pound whiting or burnt alum pulverized, one pound of loaf sugar, three quarts of rice flour made in a thin and well boiled paste, and one pound of cleanest glue dissolved as cabinet makers do. This may be put on cold within doors, but not outside. This will be as brilliant as plaster paris, and retain its brilliancy for many years. The east end of the President's house in Washington, is washed with it.—*Cincinnati Chron.*

From the N. E. Farmer.

Evergreens—Their Cultivation.

Mr. Colman—However to the contrary the tastes of others may be, we are enthusiastic in admiration of evergreens. No matter how humble their growth—if they develop themselves in the moss which adheres to the craggy rock—the humble vine, that creeps upon the earth hardly daring to look upward in the short space of its existence, or in the waving pine or dark hemlock, frowning at angry storms from the mountain's height, while centuries pass away; they are all objects on which our eyes can gaze with a pleasure and admiration which other portions of vegetable nature cannot afford.

The symmetrical maple, the spreading elm, with its trunk fascicled with tiny branches, the beautiful hickory, and tulip-tree aspiring towards the clouds, with blossoms lovely as the rainbow, truly may vie with them, when the bud first expands before the early breathings of spring, and the rich leaf matures under the ripening sun of summer; but, like *summer friends*, or those who go with us while all goes well, their goodliness withers away at the approach of autumn's storms, and in winter, they leave us nought remaining of what in summer, we admired but the barrenness of desolated beauty.

Evergreens are like "the friend that is born for adversity." Whether the sun pours the vertical and intense rays of summer, or casts the sidelong glances of winter upon the earth, they always present a gladsome and cheering prospect. In spring their new foliage is of a more lively green; in summer many of them exhibit the gayest flowers; in autumn they alone remain unchanged, saving that their foliage assumes a deeper hue, as if to shroud itself in mourning that the beauty and glory of the year has departed. When winter, monarch of the year, assumes its reign, the winds may moan through their dense-leaved groves, as if to peal the requiem of nature, but there is music, solemn and sweet, chanting in its pipings;—the snow may descend and lodge upon their branches, but it is only to veil beauty with the mantle of purity. While they stand as memorials of a past, whose "glory is departed" with its own short days, they also give an assurance of a future, when nature shall awake from her dormancy at the touch of spring. Who does not admire them, and why do we not indulge a more familiar acquaintance with them by cultivation?

Anticipated difficulties in the culture of evergreens, is, probably, a great reason why they receive no more attention. This is imaginary rather than real. For ourselves, we have no more objection to undertake the removal of a fir or a pine, in expectation of its future success, than of a maple or anything else. There are simple rules to be applied to transplanting all trees and shrubs, which rules, like those adapted to other things, must vary according to circumstances. Trees should, as nearly as may be, always removed to a soil and locality similar to that from which they are taken. This cannot often be done in setting out the variety that is desirable around dwellings and in parks. But when removed to different soils, it is preferable to move from wet to dry than otherwise, for in this case the vessels may contract so as to adapt themselves to their emergencies; but when a tree is removed to a wet soil, a surfeiting of liquid is the consequence; disease, whose presence is indicated by paleness of the leaf, and death are the effect. How strikingly analagous are the effects of excessive drinking in the vegetable and animal world. In both, a small lack of food is more beneficial to health and long life, than a superabundance of it.

In transplanting evergreens, the first attention is to be paid to the time for the removal. We prefer the season when they are shooting most vigorously, and if the new shoot has started two or three inches, with us it is no objection. They are taken up with much care to preserve the roots, and if the earth comes with them it is well; if not, *grouting* or rolling them in earth and water of the consistency of a pudding, should be resorted to. If removed in a day when the sun shines, the root should be protected from its rays. In transplanting, the pit should be amply large, and when the roots are fairly covered with fine earth, a pailful of water should be poured into each pit and the remainder of the earth thrown in. The first year they should be frequently watered, if the season is dry. We know an individual who set out a number in 1838, and who watered them every day. The consequence was, his trees all lived and grew well the season they were removed.—These trees were brought from a cold and wet, to a dry soil, so that last year they had less water than usual, and this year none by artificial means.

Another error we have seen in transplating evergreens is, in getting those too large. Being unwilling to wait for a tree to grow, we set out those of too great a size, only to see them die. Man cannot change his climate or occupation in after life without evil, often fatal consequences to his health; and while his habits (if good) are formed to his circumstances when young, and they must not be broken in upon,—so with trees; their circumstances are adapted to their cases, and if one changes, the other must, and the earlier this change is effected the easier it is got over. An evergreen, set when small by a larger one, will reach it in size in a few, very few years, and will soon pass by it and keep ahead.

Pruning evergreens is more fatal the first year than when performed on decidious trees, so much so that we prefer letting them entirely alone. If pruned, however, something should be applied to prevent the exudation of the gum or resin: grafting wax is very good for this purpose.

Evergreens which grow in the shade of other trees should have a similar locality again. Some of them cannot endure the hot rays of the sun or the twisting of the winds. Such are the *Kalmias*, as beautiful flowering shrubs as the world affords. Now for two weeks is the time for transplanting them. W. B.

Mount Osceola, May 15, 1839.

Black Teeth in Swine.

Symptoms. Loss of appetite, weakness of the hind legs and hips, dizziness. Upon examination, the bones of the teeth are found black.

Cause. Close confinement from the ground. Cure—Extract all the black teeth, physic with sulphur; and wash the patient in buttermilk, rubbing smartly with a currycomb or cob or stiff brush—and allow the animal a plenty of fresh earth or rotten wood. G.

[*Maine Cultivator.*]

HIVING BEES.

Bees, when situated where they can be favored with an ample sip from flowers, are a profitable concern. In general it is a good plan to sow some hemp seed near the hives. Hemp blossoms abundantly and continues in blossom long.

As to the matter of hiving them, the Yankee Farmer recommends the following as a safe and convenient mode. Take a pretty long board, a little narrower than the hive. Lay one end on the grond near the hives that are expected to swarm, and let the other run out at a right angle from the hive. Raise the outer end about four feet by a stake or other short piece of board, so that the wind will not blow it down. When the bees swarm, they will pitch on the under side of this board. Then bring the other end of the board up to a level with the other, and gently turn it over. Now place the hive over the swarm, and they will soon begin to ascend for permanent quarters. This is a simple, and we should think it a good way.

Another method of which he speaks is, to cut a small tree, and trim off the branches from one side clear up. Sharpen the end and insert it in the ground, perhaps a rod in front of the hive. The bees when they come out will be likely to attach themselves to some remaining limb of the tree, if none other is quite near by; in which case the tree can be drawn up and gently laid on the ground, the side being down from which the limbs were removed. The swarm will then be in a good situation for placing the hive over them. There is a reason in this system, but the first strikes us as preferable—if it be a fact that the bees will attach themselves to the board, as we presume they will.—*Maine Cultivator.*

THE KIDNEY WORM—ANOTHER CURE.

Horse-Shoe Bottom, 10th May, 1839.

To the Editor of the Franklin Farmer:

Dear Sir:—I see in the Farmer some communications upon the disease common in Hogs called a weakness of the kidneys, and not having seen a cure published for that disease, I will suggest a remedy which I have never known to fail:—Take twenty or thirty grains of calomel and mix it in half a pound of corn meal dough, and give it to the hog thus affected, and in a few hours he will be well.

Yours, &c. H. L. GREEN.

Silk.

The silk made at Lyons (France) amounts to thirty millions of dollars in value. The hatters, there make, every year, 400,000 hats. Watches and jewelry to the amount of a million of dollars are annually sent abroad, to which may be added false jewelry, valued at $1,200,000, castings worth more than half a million of dollars, and drugs worth $800,000.—*Franklin Farmer.*

The Tennessee Review, gives an account of a remarkable tree growing in Williamson county, in that State. It is a peach tree well filled with fruit, almost every peach on which is double, triple, and in some instances quadruple, closely joined together. There are a few scattering ones on it, but the larger portion are double or triple. This is the first year it has borne fruit, and the singular uniformity of union it exhibits, says the Review, beats any thing of the kind within our previous knowledge.

From the New England Farmer.

IMPROVEMENT.

Improvement! We are disposed to think that this is the best word in the language, because it signifies the best thing in this world. It combines most of hope.—Wherever things are stationary, hope expires; but where there are progress and advancement, hope is continually fed and stimulated; and as we ascend, the prospect widens. It brings more happiness with it than anything else in life. The human heart knows no censation more pleasureable and more satisfying than the consciousness of advancement. To be growing better, and to peceive the capacity of growing better continually unfolding itself and becoming more and more enlarged, inspires a high sentiment of the dignity and value of our existence; calls out and urges to their utmost speed, all the faculties of our minds; and gratifies the best affections of our nature. It is in this matter, likewise, that man acquires a sentiment, if we may be allowed the expression, of the infinity of his nature. The brute creation soon reach the end of their line. The birds have built their nests in the same form and sung the same song ever since the race was created. In the same species, invention, if it may be called invention, reaches to a certain point and then stops; and in this respect, unless in a case of disease or unnatural impotence, invention is the same in all of the same family, and no one goes beyond another. They gain no advantages from experience and they learn nothing from each other. How different is the case with man; how infinitely does the human intellect transcend the brute instinct. To the mind of man, to its inventions, its conceptions, its desires, its attempts, its aspirings, what limit has been found or can be conceived? Even here there is an ocean of knowledge spread out before it, boundless, fathomless. But beyond this world, there is a universe for its exploration, and an eternity to labor in. These considerations proclaim the infinity of the human being.

Wherever this spirit of improvement is discoverable, and puts forth in any, even the most humble form, its beautiful manifestations, it imparts the highest pleasure to the benevolent heart. The improvement of the human mind, so that it may soar higher, know more, acquire faster, retain longer, is a delightful process in the experience and the contemplation. The improvement of the character, the moral nature, so as to exalt the standard of duty, give to the individual a more complete self-possession, render vice odious, and attach us to duty and virtue as the business and purpose of life, extend the usefulness of man, and render him the benefactor and the ornament of the creation, this we all acknowledge to be the highest good and happiness of his being. The improvement of his outward condition, his animal subsistence, his personal accommodations, his physical condition, his external comforts, his sensible pleasures, so as to render his food more abundant, more palatable, more healthful, more nutritious, his repose more peaceful, his labor less toilsome, the earnings of his industry more secure; so as to render his residence more beautiful, more tasteful, more attractive, and to multiply the sources and means of innocent gratification—all this is adapted to impart a rich and unalloyed pleasure to a contemplative and benevolent mind. When these improvements go on rapidly and their impulse quickens as they advance; when we see them, like the rising springtide upon our broken and indented shores, gradually widening themselves out, breaking over temporary impediments, pressing into every creek and opening, filling every ditch and cavity, and at length spreading themselves out in a broken and mirrored surface over wide plains, and leaving, wherever the waters come, rich deposits to quicken and supply the latent but active vegetation; there is a charm in the prospect, in the good attained, and the returns anticipated, which refreshes, delights, and elevates the mind—teaches the value of our being, and makes us thankful to God that we are alive. "I pity the man," says Tristram Shandy, "that can travel from Dan to Bathsheba and cry that it is all a desert." Indeed he is to be pitied for his heartlessness, selfishness, and inhumanity.

We have been led into these reflections in looking at the condition of our own community, and in strolling through the highways and the byways, upon the hills and in the valleys, in the gardens and over the fields in the vicinity of Boston, within the last fornight of this charming and delicious month of May. It would be thought out of place by the fastidious, if we went into any discussion of the intellectual and moral condition of our community in this journal; and therefore we abstain. Yet we cannot but think that the improvement of man's physical condition has a direct influence upon the improvement of his intellectual and moral nature. In proportion as the comforts and luxuries of life are diffused and equalized, they become less the objects of envy, covetousness, and plunder. Where fruit abounds it is seldom stolen. So, likewise, in proportion as man's outward condition is improved, as he attends to the cleanliness of his person, the neatness of his dress, the elegance and tastefulness of his residence, and multiplies about him objects of refined taste and beauty, his self-respect is strengthened, his value of character elevated, his sentiment of honor quickened. These are among the great securities of virtue and powerful excitements of virtuous ambition. The improved perceptions of outward beauty, the beauty of natural objects are direct aids and quickeners of our moral perceptions, and refiners and improvers of our moral tastes.

But in respect to the external conditiou of things among us and around us, the actual advances and improvements made within the last thirty years are absolutely amazing. Within that period and within a circuit of twenty miles round the capital, thousands and thousands of acres which seemed too barren ever to be rendered productive, or too rocky ever to admit the plough, or too wet ever to be redeemed, have been brought into a condition of fertility and are covered with a luxuriant vegetation. Where here and there was an elegant mansion, belonging to some individual of princely wealth, whose privileged situatfon presented an insular aspect and seemed placed altogether beyond the reach of the many, there are now hundreds and hundreds of elegant cottages and villas, belonging honestly to individuals who earn their daily bread by their daily labor; blessed at the same time with sufficient liberality to adorn their residences with beautiful embellishments; and with improved taste to enjoy many of the most refined luxuries of rural life. Thirty years ago, the cultivation of fine fruit was limited to a few; refuse apples, fit hardly for cider; pucker mouth pears, which set the children as well as the fathers' teeth on edge; field strawberries, with their stems and leaves and half-formed fruit upon them; wild grapes, about of the hardness of green peas and flavor of crab-apples; currants, black-berries and wild cherries, whose acid made your eyes sparkle with tears when you broke their skin, constituted some of the principal luxuries of the market. Now, green houses and conservatories and forcing beds in the country are getting to be an almost indispensable appendage to every handsome residence; and the richest fruits, peaches, nectarines, pears, and grapes, which are capable of being reared in our climate, are spread about in the vicinity of the capital and fast finding their way far into the interior in the richest profusion. Add to this the cultivation of flowers, which is extending itself with the most extraordinary profusion. Not many years since, a few wild roses, pinks, princess-feather, sweet williams, lady's delight, tulips, lilacs and marigolds, constituted the whole parterre; and even these were looked upon as rare luxuries; and if the children at school could find a dandalion or lilac or white daisy to stick in their bonnet, it was deemed no common acquision. Now, everywhere, certainly in this vicinity, the common houses show the most beautiful green-house plants at their windows; their daphnes japonicas, geraniums and lilies; their front yards bloom through the season with a succession of the most splendid flowering shrubs, and their door-ways and piazzas are trellised with woodbine and monthly roses, and breathe the delicious odors of the sweetbriar and the honeysuckle.

All these things mark a progress in refinement and innocent luxury, in every respect auspicious to comfort, general improvement and humanity; and fill to overflowing the bosom, susceptible of grateful influences, with thankfulness to that Gracious Being, who has made this creation so beautiful, and given man so much to enjoy; and who when he had finished the creation and saw his glorious work blooming in vernal glory and splendor, pronounced it "all good." H. C.

Salt for Trees.

A valuable plum tree that stood in the corner of an asparagus bed, had exhibited evident symptoms of disease and decay for some years, when the asparagus bed being dressed copiously with pickle, the tree revived, became healthy and vigorous, and has this season bro't to perfection and ripened a very large crop of the finest quality. This is believed to have been caused by the salt, and it is suggested to those who consult their interest by rearing the most valuable kinds of fruit, for pleasure or profit, to try the experiment, cautiously, if applying salt or brine in moderate quanties, under and about some of their fruit trees, and detail the result for public good, hit or miss, for it is of much importance to rercord misses as well as hits.

It is a well known fact that peach trees thrive and do well and live to a great old age, within the range of the salt atmosphere and influence on the sea shore, and perhaps the artificial application of salt in small quantities may produce the same effect in other situations. Try it, and let us hear from you how it works; perchance we may discover the grand panacea, but keep in mind the wise saying of the old woman,

"That a little of a good thing is good,
But a great deal of it is good for nothing."

The estimated number of sheep in Great Brattain and Ireland is about 33,000,000.

Wood Ashes for Crops.

The testimony every where is unanimous in favor of wood ashes, applied to cultivated crops, excepting on new lands where it is not needed; to wheat in particular. An extensive manufacturer of Pittsfield states that he has tried for several years with great success the ashes from his iron furnace; the ashes of the bituminous coal and wood charcoal; and found it of great advantage without any other manure.

ALPINE MULBERRY SEED.

A FEW OUNCES of this valuable article may be had at the Rochester Seed Store—having just arrived from Europe, via New York It is of the growth of 1838; and is part of the lot mentioned in the following advertisement from the New Papers:

"Alpine Mulberry Seed.—The subscriber has just received a small "lot of genuine Alpine Mulberry seed, growth of 1838. This seed "was derived from one of the first sources in Europe by a gentleman "for his own use, a part of which he was induced to part with. The "excellence of the Alpine Mulberry, is well known, and is thought "will yet be the prevailing sort for the feeding of the silk worm.—"Price $10 per ounce. Not less than a half ounce will be sold. Or-"ders by mail enclosing the amount desired, will receive prompt at-"tention and forwarded as directed. Geo. C. Thorburn, 11 John st.

☞ The month of June is the most favorable for sowing the seed as is it requires genial warmth.

☞ For Sale at the Rochester Seed Store, at half the above price. June 15 1839.

TO SILK GROWERS.—A Treatise on the Mulberry Tree and Silkworm, and on the Production and Manufacture of Silk, embellished with appropriate engravings, a new work by John Clarke, containing pp. 366, just published and for sale at 12, Exchange-st., by [may11 4t*] WM. ALLING.

Buckwheat and Turnip Seeds.

INDIAN, and Common Buckwheat, and TURNIP SEEDS of all kinds, including a good supply of genuine English Purple top RUTA BAGA. Also on hand as usual nearly all kinds of Garden and Field Seeds, together with machines for sowing them.

M. B. BATEHAM,
june 1w&m1t Rochester Seed Store.

Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store.

79 Barclay-street, New-York.

AT this old established stand, the subscribers take pleasure in announcing to the public, that they have made extensive arrangements to accommodate farmers in all articles connected with husbandry, viz:—Agricultural implements, a full and fresh supply of Field and Garden Seeds, Fruit Trees, Durham Cattle, Chinese and Berkshire pigs, 10,000 Morus multicaulis Mulberry trees; Publications on Rural subjects, &c.

Published here the Rural Library, S. Fleet, editor, a few copies of 1st vol. for sale. The object of this work is to constitute a Library at the least possible expense. 2d vol., commencing with Professor Low's Elements of Practical Agriculture, with nearly 250 fine engravigns; subscription $3. Subscriptions received for the Genesee Farmer, Cultivator, &c. &c. J. W. WEAVER & CO.
April 20-wm1y 76 Barlay-st, New-York

Great and Timely Arrivals!

AT THE ROCHESTER SEED STORE.—The subscriber is happy to inform his friends and customers, that he has just received direct from England, a very large supply of imported Seeds, of such kinds, and in such quantities, as will meet the demands of the public, and of such quality as cannot fail to give satisfaction. Among them are,

1,500 lbs. English Purple Top Ruta Baga,
800 lbs. English and Scotch assorted Turnep,
650 lbs. Mangel Wurtzel,
300 lbs. French White and Yellow Sugar Beet,
175 lbs. Long Orange, and Altringham Carrot,
150 lbs. Yellow Dutch, and White Portugal Onion,
500 lbs. Cabbage, Cauliflower, Broccoli, and Radish,
450 lbs. White Dutch Clover, Trifolium Incarnatum.

Also—New Orchard Grass, Pacey's perennia and Italian Rye Grass, Spring Tares, Potatoe Oats, Winter Oats, many new varieties of Peas and Beans, together with a multitude of smaller articles.

Also—Nearly one hundred varieties of the choicest English FLOWER SEEDS. (These will speedily be put up in small papers, price 5 cents each, 50 cents per dozen.)

Also—Just received, a good supply of THORBURN'S CHINESE TREE CORN, and ROHAN POTATOES.

Orders already received will be immediately attended to.

All orders from a distance must contain a remittance, or good reference in this city.

☞ Agents will receive new supplies as soon as possible.
May 1, 1839. M. B. BATEHAM.

☞ *Oswego Agency.*—M. B. EPSON, Druggist, Oswego, is Agent for the Rochester Seed Store. A good assortment of Seeds may be found there.

Fruit Trees for Sale.

THE subscriber respectfully informs his friends and the public tha he has for sale at his Nursery in Rochester, Monroe county state of New York, a large quantity of Fruit Trees, grafted and inoculated with the most approved kinds, now fit for transplanting. which he will sell on the most reasonable terms.

April 15, 1838. SAMUEL MOULSON.

N. B. Cash will be paid for a few thousand two years old APPLE TREES.

Monroe Horticultural Garden and Nursery.

GREECE, MONROE COUNTY, N. Y.

THIS establishment now comprises over 20 acres, covered compactly with trees and plants in different stages of their growth.

The subscriber offers to the public a choice selection of Fruit Trees, of French, German, English and American varieties, consisting of Apples, Pears, Plums, Peaches, Cherries, Apricots, Nectarines, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries Grape Vines, Strawberries, Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Plants, Hardy Roses, Vines, Creepers, Herbaceous Perennial Plants, Bulbous Roots, Splendid Pæonies, Double Dahlias, &c. &c.

Also, a large collection of Green House Plants, of choice and select varieties, in good condition.

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